



YUKON RIVER NEWS RELEASE

STATE OF ALASKA
Department of Fish and Game
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Upper Yukon News Release #06

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YUKON RIVER, SUBDISTRICTS 5-B AND 5-C COMMERCIAL AND SUBSISTENCE SALMON FISHING SCHEDULES

The Department of Fish and Game is announcing the 3rd 12-hour commercial salmon fishing period for upper Yukon River Subdistricts 5-B and 5-C (which include the villages of Tanana and Rampart). Commercial fishing will be allowed from **6:00 p.m. Thursday, July 10, until 6:00 a.m. Friday, July 11, 2003**. Because of possible limited processor capacity, all commercial fishermen must be sure they have a legal buyer before commercial fishing.

The targeted harvest range for Subdistricts 5-B and 5-C is 1,200 – 1,400 chinook salmon. The harvest during the first 12-hour commercial salmon fishing period was 201 chinook salmon. Provided the fish quality remains high, additional periods may be scheduled to achieve the targeted harvest range. If the targeted harvest range of 1,200 - 1,400 chinook salmon is taken during the third commercial fishing period, no additional commercial fishing is likely to occur. The lower Yukon River test fishery, subsistence harvests and Pilot Station sonar data indicate that the chinook salmon run timing is five to seven days early. At this time, the chinook run appears to be better than last year.

Subsistence salmon fishing in Subdistricts 5-B and 5-C will open 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 8 and remain open continuously until 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 13. Subsistence fishing will reopen at 6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 15 and placed on the five days a week subsistence fishing schedule from 6:00 p.m. Tuesdays until 6:00 p.m. Sundays, until future notice.

Additionally, subsistence fishing for non-salmon species, such as whitefish and other non-salmon fish species remains open 7 days per week. Gillnets used for harvesting non-salmon species during salmon fishing closures in Subdistricts 5-B and 5-C are restricted to a maximum length of 60 feet and a maximum mesh size of 4-inches. Fish wheels may not be used during closed salmon periods.

Subsistence fishermen are reminded that a subsistence fishing permit is required for the Haul Road Bridge area of the Yukon River from the mouth of Hess creek to the mouth of the Dall River. Fishermen in all other areas are encouraged to fill out their subsistence salmon calendars. Permits and salmon calendars are available from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in Fairbanks.

**Yukon River Subdistricts 5-B & 5-C Commercial and Subsistence Fishing Schedule
for July 9 to July 15, 2003 (Current as of 7/8/03)**

Wednesday July 9	Thursday July 10	Friday July 11	Saturday July 12	Sunday July 13	Monday July 14	Tuesday July 15
Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing OPEN	Subsistence Salmon Fishing Only OPEN	Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing OPEN	Subsistence Salmon Fishing Only	Subsistence Salmon Fishing Only	Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing <u>CLOSED</u>	Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing <u>CLOSED</u>
<u>Commercial CLOSED</u> @ 6:00 a.m.		<u>Commercial CLOSED</u> @ 6:00 a.m.	OPEN All Day (24-Hours)	OPEN Until 6:00 p.m.	All Day (24-Hours)	Until 6:00 p.m.
Subsistence Salmon Fishing Only Remains OPEN		Subsistence Salmon Fishing Only Remains OPEN				
	6:00 p.m. Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing OPEN			6:00 p.m. Subsistence and Commercial Salmon Fishing <u>CLOSED</u>		6:00 p.m. Subsistence Salmon Only OPEN Until 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 20

Fishermen are reminded that they should consult both State of Alaska fishing regulations and the Federal Subsistence Management regulations for Federal waters subject to ANILCA Title VIII before fishing in the Yukon Area. For further information regarding federal regulations please call 1-800-478-1456.

For recorded fishery announcements and updates call 949-1731, 24 hours a day. For a recording of the current fishing schedule for your area call 1-866-479-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks, in Fairbanks 459-7387). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in Emmonak at 949-1320 or in Fairbanks at 459-7274.

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